

Malden Historic District  
(4105 Malden Drive)  
Malden  
Kanawha County  
West Virginia

HABS No. WV-210-29

HABS  
WVA  
20- MALD,  
30-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Architectural and Engineering Record  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20243

HABS  
WVA  
20-MALD,  
30-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MALDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT, 4105 Malden  
Drive

HABS No. WV-210-29

Location: 4105 Malden Drive, Malden, Kanawha County, West Virginia  
(Within the boundaries of the Malden Historic District)

Present Owners  
and Occupants: Mr. & Mrs. David F. Patton

Present Use: Dwelling and ceramic shop

Significance: Built in 1840, this house is one of the very oldest in Malden. It formerly had separate kitchens for summer and winter use and is the only house on Malden Drive to face on another street (Commerce Drive, formerly Third Street). The very long flank on Malden Drive has a subsidiary entrance. The long side hall plan is unusual for Malden, and both the plan and the detailing of the house illustrate the early advent of freely eclectic design in Malden. The house makes a major contribution to the Malden Historic District.

PART 1. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1840.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The property was originally owned by Townsen Truslow and his wife, Swanna, as recorded at the Kanawha County Courthouse in Deed Book H at page 209. They in turn conveyed it to David Ruffner on July 1, 1833, who in turn devised it to Henry Ruffner on July 5, 1838, as recorded in Deed Book K at page 281.

Sometime between 1838 and 1845 Henry Ruffner conveyed the property to Henry Tompkins and James Norton, who in turn devised it to William Tompkins, who devised it to Moses Norton and Thomas A. Norton on August 20, 1845, as recorded at the Kanawha County Courthouse in Deed Book O at page 370.

Moses Norton died intestate on January 13, 1895, leaving three children. The Moses Norton heirs conveyed the house and lot to David F. Patton and Henrietta H. Patton on October 10, 1947, as recorded in Deed Book 815 at page 191.

4. Alterations and additions: The house has had very few alterations, and more subtractions than additions. The summer kitchen and a former winter kitchen have both been removed, as has an outbuilding known as "Uncle Cahrlie's Cabin" in which Charles Wanzer, a former slave who worked for the Nortons, lived. What was known as the "small room" has been made into a bathroom, and the rear portion of the house now serves as a ceramic shop. The house remains unusually long, even after the removal of the summer and winter kitchens. Some fenestration has been altered.
- B. Historical Context: The house stands on land once owned by David Ruffner and was long the residence of Moses Norton, who married Frances N. Putney, granddaughter of Dr. Richard E. Putney, a prominent physician in Malden for over fifty years.

Prepared by: Donna Sue White  
Historian  
Historic American Buildings Survey Team  
June 1979

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This relatively large two-and-a-half story frame house is one of the oldest in Malden, dating from 1840. It is stylistically quite simple. A roofed one-story porch spans the front, and the interior has a long side hall with front and back parlors in the main block. The one-story ell was originally longer, extended by summer and winter kitchens.
2. Condition of fabric: Well maintained.

### B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: This house is approximately 30'-7" wide by 67'-5" deep, the long side having five bays. The 2-1/2 story rectangular main block, which faces onto Commerce Drive, has one-story additions to the north.
2. Wall construction, finish and color: Walls are of wooden construction, being surfaced with clapboards in both 4-1/2" and 5-1/2" widths. The exterior is painted white except for shutters, which are painted green.
3. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: A one-story porch occurs on the main entrance front on Commerce Drive. A recessed entryway occurs on the Malden Drive side. Additional minor entrances in the west and north walls are covered by small projecting gabled roofs. The front porch and the recessed entryway on the east facade exhibit carved wooden decoration to a limited degree.

4. Chimneys: Three chimneys occur on this building, two on the west wall of the 2-1/2 story block and one on the extreme north wall of the one-story additions.
  5. Openings:
    - a. Doorways and doors: Doors are wooden panel doors with their upper portions glazed.
    - b. Windows and shutters: The building has a combination of wooden double-hung sash units--some being of the six-over-six type with the remainder being of the one-over-one type.
  6. Roof:
    - a. Shape, covering: The 2-1/2 story block has a simple gabled roof covered with standing-seam metal roofing painted green. The one-story block has a gabled roof covered with black asphalt roofing in widths of approximately two feet. The western slope of this lower roof bends to a shallower pitch within a few feet of the ridge cap as it descends. The hipped roof of the front porch is covered in the same manner as the roof of the 2-1/2 story block.
    - b. Cornice, eaves: Eaves occur at all walls, the cornices of which are somewhat more decorative on the 2-1/2 story block than on the one-story additions. Cornice returns occur on the 2-1/2 story block.
- C. Site:
1. General setting: The entrance front faces south onto Commerce Drive. The side facing east onto Malden Drive has a secondary entrance.
  2. Outbuildings: A two-story garage/apartment structure is located in the northwest corner of the property.

Prepared by: James Murray Howard  
Project Supervisor  
Historic American Buildings Survey  
July 1979

### PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

#### 1. Bibliography:

##### a. Primary and unpublished sources:

Deed Book, Kanawha County Courthouse Records, Deed Book H  
at page 209.

Deed Book, Kanawha County Courthouse Records. Deed Book K  
at page 281.

Deed Book, Kanawha County Courthouse Records. Deed Book O  
at page 370.

Deed Book, Kanawha County Courthouse Records. Deed Book 815  
at page 191.

Woods, Ruth Dayton. Pioneers and Their Homes on Upper Kanawha,  
West Virginia. Charleston, West Virginia: West Virginia  
Publishing Company, 1947.

b. Interviews:

Mr. David F. Patton, 4105 Malden Drive, West Virginia.  
(Present owner of the house).

Llewellyn Cole and Martha Cole, 110 Georges Drive, Malden,  
West Virginia. (Distant relatives of the Norton family).

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) with funding from the West Virginia Department of Culture and History. The recording was completed under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, and Kenneth L. Anderson, Principal Architect of HABS, in the HABS field office in Charleston, West Virginia. Recording was carried out during the summer of 1979 by James Murray Howard (University of Illinois), Project Supervisor; Donna White, Project Historian; and Student Architects James Barrett Garrison (Carnegie-Mellon University) and Keith Edward Soto (University of Florida). The photographs were taken by Walter Smalling, Jr., Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service Photographer.